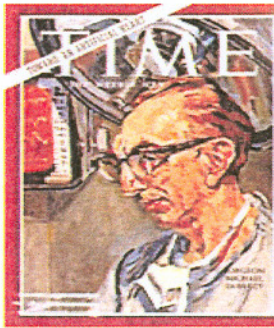


Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515



March 2007

**Support H.R. 1154:
Award the Congressional Gold Medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.**

Dear Colleague:

At the age of 98, Dr. DeBakey is a living medical legend who continues to take on the nation's most indiscriminate killer: heart disease. He is still hard at work developing innovative devices and techniques to improve the quality of health care. His wisdom has been sought by every U.S. President since Harry S. Truman.

In 1964, he performed the first successful coronary bypass, a procedure that has become routine for millions of patients worldwide. His innovations in aneurismal surgery, carotid endarterectomy, and artificial hearts have saved the lives of patients across the globe.

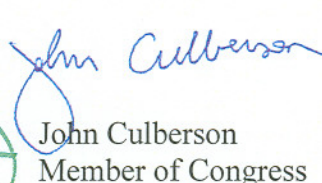
During his military service in the Surgeon General's Office in World War II, he was instrumental in establishing the National Library of Medicine, the Mobile Army Surgical Hospitals (MASH units), and the Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital system. He has worked for many years with researchers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to develop the miniaturized implantable DeBakey Left Ventricular Assist Device, which eliminates the need for heart transplantation in some patients.

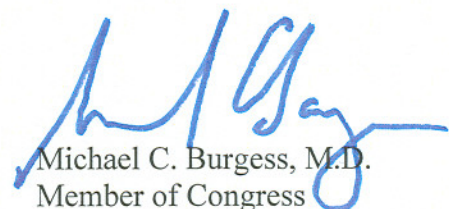
He has received countless honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Distinction and the National Medal of Science. He has been awarded 57 honorary degrees from colleges, universities, and medical schools across the United States.

Please join us in celebrating Dr. DeBakey's life and achievements by co-sponsoring a bill to award him the Congressional Gold Medal. **If you need more information or would like to become a cosponsor of H.R. 1154, please contact Samantha Burch (Rep. Green) at 5-7508 or Kimberly Reasoner (Rep. Burgess) at 5-7772.**

Sincerely,


Al Green
Member of Congress


John Culberson
Member of Congress


Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress